(c) whether it is a fact that nearly 600 civilian employees of the Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat have been deprived of 25 per cent special duty allowance; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir, but only common cadre people. Staff holding local posts are not normally transferred.

(b) The Government while issuing orders for the grant of 25 per cent special duty allowance have laid down the following criteria:

(i) Common recruitment;

(ii) Common seniority on all India basis, and

(iii) All India transfer liability.

(c) and (d) All India common cadre staff posted at Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat belonging to Administrative, Finance and Accounts and Stores and Purchase Cadres etc. who fulfil the above criteria are being paid special duty allowance. Other employees of the Laboratory do not fulfil these criteria and hence are not eligible for grant of this allowance.

Setting up of a postal circle in Assam

310. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a full-fledged postal circle in Assam;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Department of Posts considered the need for a higher level officer to direct and co-ordinate the Postal activities in Assam region and has decided to create a post of Additional P.M.G. at Gauhati and the post will be filled up shortly.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of powerful TV transmitters in Assam

311. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the towns and rural areas in Assam are not covered by T.V. network; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for powerful transmitters being set up in the district towns of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The existing high power (10 KW) TV transmitter at Guwahati and low power (100 Watt) transmitters at Silchar, Dibrugarh, Tezpur and Nazira are providing coverage to about 43.5 per cent population of Assam.

(b) Installation of two high power (10 KW) TV transmitters at Silchar and Dibrugarh (in replacement of the existing low power (100 W) transmitters) and three low power transmitters at Jorhat, Diphu and Kokrajhar are under implementation in Assam. On completion of these schemes, by 1987-88, the TV service is expected to be available to about 80.8 per cent population of the State, subject to terrain conditions.

सरकारी कर्मचारियों को देय अवकाश और छुट्टियां

312. **श्री मीर्जा इर्शादबेग** : क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा कितनी सरकारी छुट्टियां मान्य की गयी हैं ; सरकारी कर्मचारियों को इनके अलावा प्रतिवर्ष वेतन सहित कितनी छुट्टियां दी जाती हैं ; शनिवार के छुट्टी को शामिल करते हुए सरकार कर्मचारियों को कुल कितनी छुट्टियां दी जाती हैं और शनिवार की छुट्टी से उन्हें क्या लाभ हुआ है ; और

(ख) शनिवार को छुट्टी खत्म करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बीरेन सिंह इंगती) : (क) गैर-औद्योगिक केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को सामान्यतः एक कैलेण्डर वर्ष में छुट्टियों तथा अवकाश के हकदारी निम्नानुसार है :—

सार्वजनिक छुट्टियां	16
वैकल्पिक छुट्टियां	52
अर्जित अवकाश	30
अर्द्ध-वेतन अवकाश	20
साप्ताहिक अवकाश (सामान्यतः रविवार को)	2

सिविल प्रशासनिक कार्यालयों में, 3-6-1985 से लागू की गई पांच दिवसीय प्रणाली से अब ये कार्यालय एक कैलेण्डर वर्ष में 52 शनिवारों की छुट्टियों सहित, सोमवार से शुक्रवार तक कार्य करते हैं । शनिवार के अवकाशों से सरकारी कर्मचारियों को उनके मानसिक तथा शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य में सुधार लाने की दृष्टि से अधिक अवसर उपलब्ध होते हैं जो कि आराम और मनोरंजन के जरिए उनकी कार्यक्षमता को बढ़ाने के लिए आवश्यक है । ये अवकाश उन्हें अपने सामाजिक दायित्व और सांस्कृतिक आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करने में सहायक सिद्ध होते हैं ।

(ख) जिन कार्यालयों में आजकल पांच दिन का कार्य सप्ताह लागू है, उनमें शनिवार की छुट्टी को समाप्त करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

New Legislation for environment protection

313. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to bring a new legislation for safeguarding the environment in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) A comprehensive legislation viz. the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 was enacted on 23rd May, 1986. There is no proposal to enact any fresh law on environmental protection.

Admission in schools under the control of Ministry of Defence

314. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of schools are being managed by the Ministry of Defence for the children of Army personnel in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the criteria for selection/admission of children in these schools;

(d) whether besides the children of army personnel, children of the civilians are also being admitted in these schools; and

(e) if so, whether it is a fact that several children were recently refused admission in the Ajmer Military School?